# SOUTH JORDAN CITY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 3, 2021

**Present:** 

Mayor Dawn R. Ramsey, Council Member Patrick Harris, Council Member Brad Marlor, Council Member Don Shelton, Council Member Tamara Zander, Council Member Jason McGuire, CM Gary Whatcott, ACM Dustin Lewis, Assistant City Attorney Ed Montgomery, Strategic Services Director Don Tingey, Chief Financial Officer Sunil Naidu, City Commerce Director Brian Preece, Administrative Services Director Spencer Kyle, Police Chief Jeff Carr, City Recorder Anna Crookston, Engineering Director Brad Klavano, Public Works Director Jason Rasmussen, Planning Director Steven Schaefermeyer, Communications Manager Rachael VanCleave, Fire Chief Chris Dawson, IT Director Jon Day, GIS Coordinator Matt Jarman, Meeting Transcriptionist Diana Baun, Interim Mulligans Business Manager Abagail Patonai, Director of Government Affairs Melinda Seager

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Others:

Carol Brown, Bob Paxton, Bryan Synan, Cory Brady, Amanda Hill, David Hill

6:53 P.M.

**REGULAR MEETING** 

**A.** Welcome, Roll Call, and Introduction to Electronic Meeting - By Mayor Dawn R. Ramsey

Mayor Ramsey welcomed everyone present.

**B.** Invocation – By Council Member, Jason McGuire

Council Member Jason McGuire offered the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance – By Director of Administrative Services, Spencer Kyle

Director of Administrative Services Spencer Kyle led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ramsey asked for a motion to amend the agenda by removing Item H, the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-17, at the applicant's request to bring it back at a later date which moves Staff Reports and Calendaring Items to Item H and adding an Executive Closed Session for discussion of purchase, exchange or lease of real property as Item I at the end of this meeting.

Council Member Marlor motioned to amend the agenda as described above, removing Public Hearing Item H at the request of the applicant and adding Item I, an Executive Closed Session as described above. Council Member McGuire seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor.

## D. Minute Approval

D.1. July 20, 2021 City Council Meeting

August 3, 2021

Council Member Marlor made a motion to approve the July 20, 2021 City Council meeting minutes as printed. Council Member Zander seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous in favor.

# E. Mayor and Council Reports

Council Member Jason McGuire had nothing to report.

Council Member Tamara Zander reported a few of them got to attend the police compensation meeting on Wednesday at the Public Safety Building and it was the first time she had ever been in the room with practically our entire police force, it was a privilege for her as she also had her 20 year old daughter sitting next to her; she told her to let this impress and impact her life forever. Her daughter has had further conversations with other millennials about what she saw and how she felt about the meeting and she thinks that's how we change the course of what's going on in our communities. We can help people realize the reality of what's going on with our police force. She took pictures and had pictures shared with her thanks to Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave and Police Administrative Assistant Jeanene Clark. She shared some of those pictures on social media and all the comments were good except for one, and she engaged with that person and explained how we can't judge an entire group of people by the actions of one or two people; we can't do that with teachers, lawyers, planning commission members or city council members as it's not fair. She has taken it as an opportunity to advocate for the police department and for the good officers we have. As we finished that meeting which she felt was a great privilege, she asked Deputy Chief Jason Knight to hear some feedback about how things went and how it was received. She read an email from Deputy Chief Knight regarding that night, he said "Mrs. Zander, you asked me to share with you what I hear about the presentation today so I thought I'd share this tidbit. All smiles and happy people, which you would expect. A few speechless folks that are still wrapping their heads around it because it is so unprecedented. A very young police officer who came to us from the department of corrections, a very underpaid agency, called and told his young wife and mother of their brand new baby. The young lady, the mother, drove down to the police department that day to see the changes for herself in the police compensation plan and the two of them celebrated in the parking lot in a jubilant fashion." She loved that, which just warms her heart. These are good people and they are doing a critical role in our society and she will always be supportive of public safety. She is thankful for the opportunity to be there because it changed her, and she will continue to be a strong advocate for good officers in our city and elsewhere. She added that this coming Friday and Saturday there is an activity going on in Daybreak called the FizzFest, in SoDa Row. It is an art related event and they just opened their new office in that area with about 6,000 square feet. The Live Daybreak Group came to her, the Zander Real Estate Team, and asked if they would host the art exhibit. This Friday and Saturday from 6:00-10:00 pm they will have about 43 different local artists displayed in their office in SoDa Row. She is excited to be in her new space and they just moved to double the office space for the Zander Real Estate Brokerage, they are having their Grand Opening August 28, everyone is invited for a ribbon cutting by the Chamber of Commerce. She is grateful to be a business owner in the city.

Council Member Brad Marlor also attended the public safety compensation meeting and was impressed with the great bunch of men and women that were there. It was a great day for South

Jordan, not just for the police and public safety employees. These employees will be continuing to serve here in the city, rather than going somewhere else to get better pay and he is very grateful for that. He has still not had an Architectural Review Committee Meeting, it has been almost a year.

Council Member Patrick Harris also attended the police compensation meeting and it was a pleasure to be in a room with all the officers of our city, they do a fantastic job. It was a privilege to make sure we are paying a fair wage compared to what other cities are paying and making sure our officers that serve us so well are being treated properly. He did not mention in the last meeting that his kids participated in the SoJo Glow Race Series and he thought the city staff and volunteers did a fantastic job. When all the kids lined up there they did a great job getting it all organized and speaking at their level, making it a fun activity afterwards as well. In his opinion, if his kids leave with a smile on their faces and they are talking about it, it was a success.

Council Member Don Shelton had the opportunity to attend the July 24 celebration at Glenmoor Golf course where it was a lot of fun. The mayor came and kicked off the fireworks and he thought it was really nice. He appreciated the firemen that were out there to make sure that it was all safe and appropriately done. He was out of town all last week and missed the police compensation meeting, but he is very supportive of what is being done there.

Mayor Dawn Ramsey said the Pioneer Day Event was a highlight for her, it was great to be there and there were a lot of people there to celebrate our beautiful state. She had lunch with the Chairman of the Board with UTA and he wanted to know what concerns South Jordan has, what they can address, and shared with her some very good news. He said they are going to continue with the micro transit project that has been a very successful pilot project; people are using it and it has been a good method for providing transit in our city that is different. It is on demand transit and instead of calling it VIA, which is still the company that is going to be providing the service, they are going to call it UTA On Demand Service. They are also going to be extending their hours and they are mindful of our needs as we grow. She stood with the governor and lieutenant governor at the press conference about the drought last week at the Jordan Valley Water Conservation District. She was invited to attend because she is a trustee of the water district and she wasn't scheduled to speak but the lieutenant governor asked her to come up and stand with her. They had the chance to stand with the governor and she was very proud to represent not just the water district, but our city specifically who was named in the press conference as one of the four cities who have adopted new water wise and water conservation ordinances for new development going forward. She wants to acknowledge our council and staff who have worked very hard to make that happen and again give a shout out to the great work taking place here. The mayor of St. George traveled up to speak, she represented Southern Utah, and as they talked she was aware that our water conservation program is comparable to St. George and theirs is the most robust really in the state. She hopes this is something other communities will follow. The mayor of St. George was leaving to have a meeting with their council of government down in Southern Utah and Washington County and they were getting together to have this discussion because St. George alone can't do it. After hearing that, Mayor Ramsey has decided this is something she is going to put on some agendas with the other cities and have continued conversations about what they can all do together. She recorded a podcast with a brilliant young man who is from South Jordan. All of his family lives here and his grandfather has the longest running continuous business license in the city. He has a podcast called Millenial in the Middle and he does a great job, they were able to talk about the city and some of the great work taking place

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here. She met with the League of Cities and Towns, they are working really hard and have put together a group called Officers Plus to work on some of the things that they know they will be discussing during the legislative session and some of the things they will be working on. They have a really strong presence at the Legislative Priority Committee of the League of Cities and Towns from South Jordan and there is going to be a lot of time expended in that area; there will probably be a lot of updates about that. It is a great opportunity to work with our legislators and make sure that they are aware of the needs and responsibilities in local government as sometimes it's easy for those who don't serve in this arena to forget that local government exists for public safety and zoning, to be able to develop and plan our communities the way we as residents of this community want. The Economic Opportunities Commission is really under way with the state; they have been meeting and they will have lots of meetings about that and she will be bringing back updates. She had the chance to visit with Wasatch Front Regional Council and to talk about some of the transportation needs as our city continues to grow in regards to the big picture transportation plan for the region. People are aware, those who make decisions and help fund know we are growing.

## F. Public Comment:

Cory Brady (Resident) has lived in South Jordan for about 30 years. He thanked the council for the work they've done, as well as our public safety officers. The second stop sign headed east from 1300 West is right in front of his house, as well as a sidewalk which effectively took all parking from his frontage and he is happy to deal with that. He wants to say nothing but the very best for our officers here in South Jordan. Over the last 30 years he has had different opportunities for them both to provide security at his home and his neighbors' and they have always had a quick response, he wants to thank them for that. He is here because of a public hearing notice that he is concerned about, it has been impossible for him to find any information on it. This is regarding the public utilities easement vacation that has been requested by applicant Josh Guerra. There is a sewer easement that runs right next to his property, he has easements on three sides of his property and he knows the property in question has had five lots proposed on it. He understands the new owner not wanting to have that cut up so they can build how they want. He asked the council if they could get a little more information; a sign was posted on the sidewalk, blew over promptly and he hasn't been able to navigate the site very well to get specific information on the item. His concerns are in vacating anything on a preplanned situation, this individual purchased the property knowing the easements were there. He is representing two other neighbors who are out of town and have adjacent properties. Where there are already existing easements for those who have been there a really long time, being asked to vacate an additional easement puts additional burden on those around them. He asks that the council take a look as first in time and first in line on water rights as it is something that makes long term residents feel pushed aside for new development. He wants to be considerate of the person whose property this is, they are planning for it to be one estate and that's great, but he is very concerned about how in the future that overburdens other existing right of ways.

**Bob Paxton** (**Resident**) wanted to thank everyone for the work they have been doing, he really appreciated the mayor's comments about water concerns as that is a big thing right now. For 2020 and 2021 we have experienced years of heat and water shortages. Many of the residents of South Jordan have large lots filled with trees, shrubs, grasses, etc. The green in our yards provides cooler temperatures, his backyard has yet to reach 100 degrees, even though we have had nearly 20 days of 100 degree heat this year; the highest they have seen in his yard is 98.6 and that's because of trees,

shrubs, hedges and grass. It also provides air purification, oxygen, beauty and quality of life. One of his questions is whether the residents will be asked to let these investments die. Over the past 30+ years just his water bill to keep things going has been \$30,000, let alone the expense of putting everything in. He believes we have far exceeded in our county the depth of the natural resources around, which would be especially water and air quality problems. Plans and past zoning he believes addressed the limited supply of water, but in the county these plans have been altered and changed so that we no longer represent the true plans for the true amount of water which we have had. He follows Alta Ski Area as he has skied there for 50 years and they in fact had 87% of the 40 year average this year, and that 40 year average has dropped for the last 10 years by 90 inches; Alta exceeded our 10 year average, but when you look at the statistics the water is diminishing with the population skyrocketing. He asked what our city, county and state are doing and planning to deal with this huge population surge that we are experiencing; will there be any moratoriums, will we work with surrounding states to try to come up with water from the Columbia River or some other place. Will we work with California, Nevada and Arizona as we have a definite problem with growth in the west. We the public don't know what the plans really are. When he moved into his subdivision 30 years ago they had irrigation rights and the city did not connect them, they refused to do that; probably because there wasn't enough money back in those days. Are there any plans in the future to connect some of these older subdivisions with irrigation water so they might lower their bill and enjoy their yards and water.

Mayor Ramsey closed the public comment part of the meeting. She mentioned that the governor asked cities to install secondary water meters and this is something South Jordan has been doing, the state is appropriating a lot of money to do this as there is data that proves simply installing secondary meters lowers the usage and saves a lot of water. Similar to our "Flip the Strip" program we have here that we administer ourselves, the governor would like to find a mechanism for the state to be able to do similar things like buying people's sod and helping put in more water wise plants.

**G.** Action Item: Resolution R2021-27, Authorizing the Mayor to sign Interlocal Agreement with South Valley Sewer District to lease a building for the City's Water Reuse Pilot Project. (By Director of Public Works, Jason Rasmussen)

Director of Public Works Jason Rasmussen said this agreement allows the South Valley Sewer District to let us use space inside their building to install water purification equipment as our pilot test project. This agreement sets terms and conditions that the sewer district is comfortable with, that we are comfortable with, and will allow us to access the site when we need to which may be during regular or "off" hours. There will be some work required, as discussed during the study session; when we are done there in about five years we will remove some things and restore the room to where it was and there will be a small cost to do that.

Mayor Ramsey asked him to speak to how long he thinks it will be before we can really get up and going with this now that we have the space, this has gone on for so long with so much regulation and we are almost there.

Director Rasmussen said they have ordered all of the equipment, five different pieces of

treatment equipment that the water will go through to become purified and to drinking water standards; the last piece should be arriving the end of October or the first part of November. In the meantime, we will have this agreement in place (if approved) that will have the sewer district allow us to get in there and start doing all the prep work to put in these treatment skids and start purifying water. He is hoping by the end of this year it will be up and going, processing and purifying water. They would love to have everyone down there to see it in action before the end of the year.

Mayor Ramsey said maybe when it's ready they could do their own ribbon cutting. This is a big deal and something we are going to be very proud of. This is revolutionary for water reuse in the state of Utah. The intention was to try drinking it soon, but to progress the regulatory process we have agreed not to do drinking samples and reapply in a couple of years to address that again.

Director Rasmussen said they are going to treat it, test the water quality and provide that to the state. He believes after a year they will be in a place to start allowing samples.

Mayor Ramsey said the Director of Water Quality for the State of Utah said he'll be here with us, the first time we do samples and tasting he'll come and stand there with us and drink it.

Director Rasmussen said the technology is there, it's just the regulatory side of getting them comfortable.

Council Member Zander Motioned to approve Resolution R2021-27, Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement with South Valley Sewer District. Council Member Shelton seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor.

Council Member Shelton said this has been going on for 15 or more years and City Manager Gary Whatcott has been leading that charge all along. He is grateful to him for his efforts on that.

Council Member Marlor said he remembers back in early 2000, Manager Whatcott talking about "re-using" and wondering what he was talking about. It has been a long time and it has finally come to fruition.

# H. Staff Reports and Calendaring Items

Manager Whatcott said Doug Brown, our Manager at Mulligan's, has left us moving on to other things. He wanted to introduce Interim Mulligan's Business Manager Abby Patonai, who was joining via Zoom. Ms. Patonai is filling in as interim while they are looking for a new manager. She has worked for the city for a number of years in Finance but she is very capable and she is doing a really good job. He is happy she was willing to step into the role for a little bit. There was a major pump failure down at Mulligan's and it caused the grass to really brown, this was not on purpose. Director Rasmussen's team stepped up to help and they got the pump rebuilt and it is now operational again. Some of the team went down and watered by hand with pumps and helped

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restore some of the dormancy of the grass. He asked the mayor to go over the unique set up for the next City Council Meeting.

Mayor Ramsey said she confirmed that we will be starting our August 17 council meeting at 7:30 p.m. We will have our regular work meeting at 4:30 p.m., and when that concludes we will go over to the Public Safety Building to welcome Congressman Owens who is coming here to do his Town Hall. The council will have the chance to greet him and say hello to any residents who come. The mayor will then, at his request, introduce the congressman and afterwards we will come back here for our council meeting. The meeting with Congressman Owens will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Manager Whatcott said this will be announced next week on all the regular outlets that our council meeting will be at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Ramsey reiterated that we are doing this at Congressman Owens' request.

Police Chief Jeff Carr thanked the council and mayor for being at the meeting last week, it had a huge impact on his employees to see all of them there. They communicated to them that they had the support of the entire council. He wanted to thank Herriman and Riverton for covering our calls, they were in our city covering our calls so every officer that was available could be there. As soon as the meeting started there was an armed theft in the District area with two suspects running away with knives and Riverton handled that for us. They have a great partnership with both Riverton and Herriman; Herriman covered the west side of the city, Riverton covered the east side of the city. We also do tactical operations with those two cities, we have a joint SWAT Team as well as a car team to investigate major collisions that occur in the three cities so they have some regional partnerships that they value. He wants to publicly thank both cities for their help that day. Obviously his employees are very appreciative of what happened, but since last week he is aware of two cities who have formally done similar things, West Jordan and South Salt Lake, and they have comparable plans to ours now. There are also several other cities that are in the process of talking, he got a call today from the Riverton Chief asking for more information about that. He was at a meeting yesterday with about 40 police chiefs and sheriffs who met with the governor to have a forum. The Beaver County Sheriff brought up what was happening in Salt Lake County and he had at least half a dozen chiefs come up to him after wanting information on the pay plan and things like that, which he relayed to them. He thinks it is fair to say that there seems to be a rebalancing of public safety and the pay compensation on the police side. He doesn't know exactly what to expect going forward, but he would expect in Salt Lake County everyone is going to be in that neighborhood. Everyone feels a high degree of pride in the city for what was done and how quickly we reacted to it.

Mayor Ramsey said that while they were there with all the officers, a representative of Murray called and asked about the new plan they were unveiling. As soon as she left, the mayor of Riverton called and had heard the same thing.

Chief Carr said he received several texts while the meeting was going on from chiefs who had received pictures from our officers to their officers, it didn't take long for word to spread.

Engineering Director Brad Klavano said regarding 2200 West, their storm drain master plan was

updated and it was determined that we needed to run a new line in 2200 West from 9800 South down to the canal. They want to get that done prior to overlaying the road, so they are going to wrap that up the weekend of August 14 and the 15, but to do that they will have to close the intersection at 9800 South and 2200 West for Saturday and Sunday. They are hoping it won't take the full two days, but he will get the Variable Message Signs (VMS) out and will have the detour signs up. It will affect traffic mostly on Saturday, but Sunday traffic is usually fairly light. The plan is to overlay the road completely around the first of September and should be done with the overlay prior to SummerFest and the parade.

Mayor Ramsey asked how far South down 2200 West this goes.

Director Klavano said it goes all the way from 11400 South to West Jordan, it is just finishing all the pieces of curb, gutter and sidewalk that we are missing. The overlay will go from 11400 South to 10400 South. We did the section from 10400 South to 9800 South last year, and then it will go from 9800 South up to West Jordan. It will be a basically brand new street with curb, gutter and sidewalk. They couldn't get the park strip in the federal aid bid, however we have money and they are working on that separately to bid out this winter and install the park strip in the spring and it will be done with the water wise rules per our code. Street light bases were part of the project and the conduits, but the lights themselves were not; he is working with Director Rasmussen and his crew with some funding there and those street lights should be up and running by November.

Mayor Ramsey said she asked because of all the high school students who park along 2200 West. Jordan District also just announced that Bingham will be starting virtually the first two weeks because they are still under construction; this gives us two more weeks before students are parking along there.

Director Klavano said the students don't really start parking near this area until the school year goes on and the sophomores get their licenses and they can't get permits in the parking lot. The other issue he wanted to discuss was that UDOT held some meetings for the environmental on 9800 South and Bangerter last week on Zoom and in person at Elk Ridge Elementary. He was able to attend the meeting at Elk Ridge and tried to stay anonymous as a city employee but it didn't last long. He expects the mayor and Council Member Marlor will start getting calls soon. Most of the people who live along or back up to 9800 South are against an actual interchange or connection there; they would like to see it go like 11800 South. City staff, himself and Manager Whatcott have talked and done a traffic analysis before UDOT even got involved and now UDOT is doing the same thing. It really creates a lot of traffic issues to other streets when they don't have that as an interchange. He feels strongly that it needs to be an interchange for traffic circulation, connectivity, and even if it's taken away their modeling only shows it drops the traffic 10%. If you leave it as an interchange, by 2050 it increases 10%; it doesn't really change a lot either way as far as 9800 South goes. It does however put additional traffic on 3200 West and 4000 West because they have to get off on 10400 South or 9000 South and then come back and get on 9800 South. We are a long, linear city and to only have two connections to Bangerter Highway would, in his opinion, be a huge mistake. We already only have two to I-15 which is a problem. UDOT has told him they will hold to the interchange even though all the negative stuff has come up, but it is going to be a lot of ugly press. They just want to make sure that the city and city council are really behind that and they will go forward. If anyone has other input or ideas he would like to know

now before he keeps relaying that information to UDOT that they are really behind an interchange here.

Council Member Shelton said he has already had a phone call.

Director Klavano said it is amazing how many people drop and pick up kids out of Elk Ridge and jump on Bangerter, which would be a huge deal taking that away.

Council Member Marlor is already getting phone calls but he expected them.

Director Klavano said they are meeting with the school district quite often on the pedestrian bridge because if they re-do the pedestrian bridge and take Bangerter over, they will have to move that bridge really far north or south to get the road back down. The elementary school boundaries on the west side of Bangerter are north of 9800 South, so really the only option would be to move it north; however, they move it that far north and no kids are really going to use it and we are going to spend \$5 million dollars for a structure that really won't be used. They are looking at an option called a "tight diamond" which brings them in and stops them at a signal, to him it would be really easy to cross them there with crossing guards and the state would fund them forever. He knows a lot of the parents are saying there is a bridge now so they want one back, but the problem is they can't put the bridge right back where it was.

Mayor Ramsey asked for him to address again for those listening why 9800 South can't go under.

Director Klavano said the problem is that the Jordan Aqueduct hugs Bangerter there. To the south it diverges just past 10200 South and goes through the Walmart and Costco parking lots, this is why at 11400 South and 10400 South we could go under because the aqueduct isn't there. When they build the retaining walls down they do walls that go back about 80 feet and puncturing that nail through the pipe is a problem. They would either have to shift Bangerter really far west and take out part of the school, which people have said would be better to do, or they have to move the aqueduct which means they have to buy a lot of homes to move it further to the east. They are looking at the option and will come up with some rough costs, but despite people saying money shouldn't be an option, the reality is that it is in everything that we do. We also have our own waterlines and sewer lines that he doesn't know where they would be relocated. With 10400 South they found a way to do it next to Walmart and on 11400 South there weren't any lines going through there.

Council Member Zander said Director Klavano mentioned it will have to go over, however at 12600 South they did a modified half over and under and she was wondering if we could do something like that.

Director Klavano said the costs of that are higher, Riverton did have to pay some of the cost for that because they are lowering utilities and other things, and his opinion is they gained nothing out of it. They still have the bridge and it's really complicated to construct that way.

Council Member Zander asked if we will be at a height similar to 7800 South.

Director Klavano said approximately, yes. The span is not as big as 9000 South and 7800 South so it won't be quite as massive as a structure. He has discussed with UDOT that even if they didn't have an interchange, in order to build the flyover they have to build the ramps to take the traffic around while they're building the flyover; when you build the ramps it would be silly not to leave the ramps.

Council Member McGuire motioned to recess the City Council Meeting and move to an Executive Closed Session to discuss the purchase, exchange or lease of real property. Council Member Zander seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor.

# RECESS CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING AND MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

**I. Executive Closed Session:** Discussion of the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

## ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AND RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

Council Member Zander made a motion to adjourn the executive closed session meeting and return to the City Council Meeting. Council Member McGuire seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous in favor.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Shelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Marlor seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The August 3, 2021 City Council meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

This is a true and correct copy of the August 3, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes, which were approved on August 17, 2021.

Anna Crockston

South Jordan City Recorder